



# **SDG&E's PSPS TABLETOP EXERCISE**

Situation Manual

June 27, 2022

## Document Purpose

This document serves as San Diego Gas & Electric's (SDG&E's) Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Tabletop Exercise (TTX) Situation Manual (SitMan). This document is to be used in tandem with the PSPS TTX PowerPoint presentation.

This document provides guidance to exercise participants on exercise schedule, objectives, and key discussion items.

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## Exercise Overview

<b>Exercise Name</b>	SDG&E's PSPS TTX with External Partners
<b>Exercise Dates</b>	June 27, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
<b>Scope</b>	This exercise is a three-hour, discussion-based exercise, that will take place remotely via Teams®.
<b>Purpose</b>	The purpose of this exercise is to test SDG&E's understanding of Emergency Operation Center (EOC) activities during a PSPS activation and how coordination and communication with external partners will occur.
<b>Focus Area(s)</b>	Response
<b>SDG&amp;E Capabilities</b>	Operational Coordination Public Information and Warning
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify PSPS response procedures and how to maintain coordination with our local and state public safety partner agencies during a PSPS event.</li> <li>2. Discuss the communication processes for notification to public safety partners, access and functional needs and vulnerable populations, and affected customers during a PSPS event.</li> <li>3. Demonstrate the channels and processes of decision-making for de-energization and re-energization during a PSPS event.</li> </ol>
<b>Threat or Hazard</b>	High Fire Threat and Santa Ana Winds
<b>Scenario</b>	PSPS
<b>Participating Jurisdictions/ Organizations</b>	This is an exercise for SDG&E employees and external partners. For a full list of invited agencies and organizations, please see Appendix A.
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# General Information

## Exercise Objectives and Capabilities

The following exercise objectives in the table below describe the expected outcomes for the exercise. The objectives are linked to capabilities, which are the means to accomplish a mission, function, or objective based on the performance of related tasks, under specified conditions, to target levels of performance. The objectives and aligned capabilities are guided by senior leaders and the SDG&E Training and Exercise Group.

Exercise Objectives	SDG&E Capability
Identify PSPS response procedures and how to maintain coordination with our local and state public safety partner agencies during a PSPS event.	Operational Coordination
Discuss the communication processes for notification to public safety partners, access and functional needs and vulnerable populations, and affected customers during a PSPS event.	Operational Communication
Demonstrate the channels and processes of decision-making for de-energization and re-energization during a PSPS event.	Operational Coordination

## Participant Roles and Responsibilities

The term participant encompasses many groups of people, not just those playing in the exercise. Groups of participants involved in the exercise, and their respective roles and responsibilities, are as follows:

- **Players:** Personnel who have an active role in discussing their regular roles and responsibilities during the exercise. Players discuss actions in response to the scenario provided.
- **Facilitators:** Provide situation updates and moderate discussions. They also provide additional information or resolve questions as required.
- **Evaluators/Notetakers:** Are assigned to breakout groups to observe and document certain objectives during the exercise. Their primary role is to document player discussions, including how and if those discussions conform to plans, policies, and procedures.
- **Observers:** Individuals that do not directly participate in the exercise but may watch segments of the exercise as it unfolds.

## Exercise Structure and Schedule

### Structure

This exercise will be a virtual discussion-based exercise that will be led by facilitators. Players will receive an overview of the exercises purpose and scenario, then will work through a series of modules:

- **Module 1** - Stage 1: Activating PSPS Protocols/Potential to De-energize
- **Module 2** - Stage 2: Decision to De-energize and Stage 3: De-energization Initiated
- **Module 3** - Stage 4: Initiating Re-energization Protocols and Stage 5: All PSPS Lines Re-energized

### Schedule

Outlined on the following page is a detailed exercise schedule.

Time	Topic
9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions
9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Exercise Overview
9:30 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.	<b>Module 1</b> – Stage 1: Activating PSPS Protocols/Potential to De-energize
10:10 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	<i>Break</i>
10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<b>Module 2</b> – Stage 2: Decision to De-energize and Stage 3: De-energization Initiated
11:00 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.	<b>Module 3</b> – Stage 4: Initiating Re-energization Protocols and Stage 5: All PSPS Lines Re-energized
11:35 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.	<i>Break</i>
11:40 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.	Hot Wash
11:55 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Final Remarks

## Exercise Guidelines and Assumptions

- This exercise will be held in an open, no-fault environment wherein capabilities, plans, systems, and processes will be evaluated.
- Respond to the scenario using your knowledge of current plans and capabilities and insights derived from your training and experience.
- Issue identification is not as valuable as suggestions and recommended actions that could improve processes moving forward. Problem-solving efforts should be the focus.
- The exercise scenario is plausible.
- Certain aspects of this exercise need to be simulated including weather.
  - Real-world PSPS dashboard will be demonstrated during this exercise. This system is tied to real-world data. Therefore, the weather provided in the exercise brief will not align to what is shown in the PSPS dashboard. This is an exercise artificiality.
- This exercise will include jumps in time to ensure SDG&E can cover various response phases of a PSPS event. The facilitator will identify when jumps in times occur.
- Please use plain language and refrain from acronyms and technical terminology.

## Exercise Evaluation

### Exercise Evaluation Guides (EEGs)

Key Exercise Planning Team members will also serve as evaluators for this exercise. EEGs have been developed that include the exercise capabilities, objectives, and critical tasks. Pre-designated individuals will serve as Evaluators for this exercise and will complete the EEGs.

### Hotwash

At the conclusion of the exercise there will be a hotwash. During the hotwash participants and facilitators will talk through the strengths and areas identified for improvement during this exercise.

### Participant Feedback Survey

Participant Feedback Surveys provide players with the opportunity to comment candidly on exercise activities and exercise design, and to share their observed strengths and areas for improvement. Participant Feedback Surveys will be completed via Survey Monkey®. The survey will be sent via a [link](#) in the Teams® chat during the exercise or using the QR code to the right. Participants are highly encouraged to complete this survey.



### After-Action Report

The notes, evaluations, hotwash, and survey results will all be utilized to develop an After-Action Report (AAR) that outlines the strengths, as well as areas of improvement and recommended actions for improvement that will be captured in the Improvement Plan (IP).

# Module 1

## Scenario

### Summary as of Monday June 27, 2022:

A Santa Ana wind event is expected Wednesday morning through Thursday afternoon. The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a Red Flag Warning for Inland Orange County (Zone 554) and the San Diego County Valleys and Mountains (Zones 250 & 258) to be in effect from 0800 Wednesday until 1200 Thursday. The Santa Ana Wildfire Threat Index (SAWTI) was rated Marginal on both Wednesday and Thursday.

### Weather Forecasts:

The NWS forecasts anticipates wind gusts of 40 mph, and up to 50- 60 mph in wind-prone locations, with relative humidity down to 7-12%. SDG&E weather models show the potential for wind gusts in backcountry areas to be in the 35-45 mph range, with isolated higher gusts in the most wind-prone locations. The humidity is expected to be in the teens in most areas, with pockets of single-digit forecasts.

### Local Fire Conditions and Fire Potential:

The Fire Potential Index (FPI) will be Extreme for all inland districts as well as Orange County and Elevated for all San Diego County coastal districts.

## Stage 1: Activating PSPS Protocols/Potential to De-energize Discussion Questions

Over the next 40 minutes, participants will be asked to talk through the following questions.

### Decision-making Questions

- What meteorological factors go into this decision-making process to activate PSPS protocols?
- What is the process for deciding to activate PSPS protocols?
- For the Officer In-Charge, what decision would you make given the current information?
- Can SDG&E Electric Operations and Fire Coordinators explain what actions would occur at this time?

### Notification and Information Sharing Questions

- How does SDG&E do notifications for a potential PSPS event?
- San Diego 211, Orange County 211, Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT), and Salvation Army, can you discuss what you would be doing at this time? What information would you be looking from SDG&E?



- For impacted jurisdictions, after you receive notifications of a potential PSPS event at the 72-hour mark, what are you doing to prepare? What information are you seeking from SDG&E?
- As we get closer to the anticipated PSPS event, how does forecasting change? How does this impact notifications?

# Module 2

## Scenario

It is now Wednesday, and the winds are beginning to pick up. The winds are nearing alert speed for the five devices outlined below.

## Stage 2: Decision to De-energize and Stage 3: De-energization Initiated Discussion Questions

Over the next 45 minutes, participants will be asked to talk through the following questions.

### Decision to De-energize Questions

- Can Meteorology describe the systems that are used for weather tracking, cameras, and data retention?
- Given the updated scenario briefing, can SDG&E provide a demonstration of the de-energization decision process?
- Specific to the SDG&E Internal PSPS Dashboard, can you explain what the difference between sectionalizing device and a circuit are?
- Can you explain a situation or scenario where we would de-energize not based on the winds and the alert speed?

### Community Resource Questions

- How are Community Resource Centers (CRCs) opened?
- What services are available to the Access and Functional Needs community during a PSPS event?

# Module 3

## Scenario

It is Thursday evening and favorable conditions have emerged. A total of 40 devices were de-energized. The re-energization protocols can begin.

## Stage 4: Initiating Re-energization Protocols and Stage 5: All PSPS Lines Re-energized Discussion Questions

Over the next 35 minutes, participants will be asked to talk through the following questions.

### Re-energization Decision-making Process Questions

- As we begin to look at re-energization, how do we know what the re-energization plan is?
- Can Electric Operations discuss the patrol process?
- Can SDG&E demonstrate the decision-making process to direct re-energization
- How do unplanned outages impact the re-energization process?
- How would an unplanned outage impact the notification process?

### Notifications and Demobilization Questions

- What notifications occur during re-energization?
- What is the process for closing CRCs after re-energization is complete?
- What demobilization activities occur at the conclusion of a PSPS event?

# Appendix A: Agencies and Organizations Invited

Agency or Organization
211 Orange County
211 San Diego
Access to Independence
Alpine Fire Department
AT&T
Barona Fire Department
Bonita Fire Department
Borrego-Fire Fire Department
Bureau of Land Management Fire Department
California Department of Education
California Department of Water Resources
California Fire
California Office of Emergency Services
California Specialized Training Institute
Campo Reservation
Carlsbad Fire Department
Charter
Chula Vista Fire Department
Cities of El Cajon, La Mesa and Lemon Grove
City of Aliso Viejo
City of Aliso Viejo
City of Carlsbad
City of Chula Vista
City of Coronado
City of Dana Point
City of Del Mar
City of Encinitas
City of Escondido
City of Imperial Beach

Agency or Organization
City of Laguna Beach
City of Laguna Hills
City of Laguna Niguel
City of Mission Viejo
City of National City
City of Oceanside
City of Poway
City of Rancho Santa Margarita
City of San Diego
City of San Juan Capistrano
City of San Marcos
City of Santee
City of Santee Fire Department
City of Solana Beach
City of Vista
City of Vista Fire Department
Comcast
Coronado Fire Department
County of San Diego - Public Health Preparedness and Response
County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services
Cox Communications
California Public Utilities Commission
Campo Reservation Fire Protection District
California Utilities Emergency Association
Del Mar
Department of Transportation
Eastern Band of Cherokee
Encinitas Fire Department
Escondido Fire Department
Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation
Fallbrook Water District
Frontier California
Heartland Fire & Rescue

Agency or Organization
Heartland Fire Department
Imperial Beach Fire Department
Indian Health
La Jolla Reservation
La Posta Reservation
La Jolla Tribe Fire Department
Lakeside Fire Department
Los Coyotes Reservation
Manzanita Reservation
Mesa Grande Reservation
National City Fire Department
Navy Fire Department
North County Fire
Oceanside Fire Department
Orange County Fire Association
Orange County Office of Emergency Services
Padre Dam Municipal Water District
Pala Tribe Fire Department
Paum Tribe Fire Department
Pacific Gas & Electric
Poway Fire Department
Rainbow Municipal Water District
Ramona Municipal Water District
Red Cross
Rincon Fire Department
Rancho Santa Fe Fire Department
Salvation Army
San Diego County
San Diego County Fire Authority
San Diego County Water Authority
San Diego Fire Department
San Diego Sheriff's Department
San Juan Capistrano

Agency or Organization
San Marcos Fire Department
San Miguel Fire Department
San Pasqual Tribe Fire Department
Santa Margarita Water District
Santa Ysabel Reservation
Southern California Edison
Sempra Utilities
Southern Indian Health
Sycuan Fire Department
T-Mobile
United States Department of Agriculture Fire Department
United States Marine Corps Fire Department
Valley Center Municipal Water District
Verizon
Viejas Fire Department
Vista Fire Department
Vista Irrigation District
Vista Senior Volunteer Program
Yuma Municipal Water District

## Appendix B: Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronym	Term
AAR	After-Action Report
CRC	Community Resource Center
EEG	Exercise Evaluation Guide
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
FACT	Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation
FPI	Fire Potential Index
IP	Improvement Plan
NWS	National Weather Service
PSPS	Public Safety Power Shutoff
SAWTI	Santa Ana Wildfire Threat Index
SDG&E	San Diego Gas & Electric
SitMan	Situation Manual
TTX	Tabletop Exercise